

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #14

Summer Announcement #11, Lower Yukon Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

In response to the projected poor to below average Chinook salmon run for 2012, preseason management strategies were developed with input provided by fishermen throughout the drainage. Based on the outlook and consistent with preseason management strategies, fishing time on the first pulse of Chinook salmon will be reduced to conserve fish for escapement.

The subsistence salmon fishing periods in District 2 and District 3 will be cancelled to continue to protect the first pulse of Chinook salmon as it travels upriver.

Coastal District: In the northern portion of the Coastal District from 62 degrees North latitude to Point Romanof and 3 miles offshore, subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed. The department will notify fishermen by Sunday, June 24, concerning subsistence salmon fishing opportunity in this portion of the Coastal District.

In the remainder of the Coastal District, from the Naskonat Peninsula north to 62° North latitude, the subsistence salmon fishing schedule is open 7 days per week, 24 hours a day. Fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller during open subsistence salmon fishing periods in this portion of the Coastal District.

District 1: Currently, subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 is closed. The department will notify fishermen by June 24 concerning the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for District 1.

District 2: Currently, subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is closed, and will remain closed during the next subsistence salmon fishing period which was scheduled to begin 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 24. The department will notify fishermen by June 26 concerning the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for District 2.

District 3: Effective 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 24, gillnets will be restricted during subsistence salmon fishing periods to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to conserve Chinook salmon while allowing fishermen the opportunity to harvest summer chum salmon.

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 3 will close at 2:00 p.m. Monday, June 25, and will remain closed during the subsistence salmon fishing period which was scheduled to begin 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 27. The department will notify fishermen by June 30 concerning the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for District 3.

Fishermen in Districts 1, 2, and 3 should stand by for short notice news releases on VHF and radio regarding the subsistence salmon fishing closure to protect the first pulse of Chinook salmon as it passes through these districts.

Innoko River: Subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days per week, 24 hours a day. Fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller during open subsistence salmon fishing periods. Effective 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 24, gillnets will be restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to conserve Chinook salmon.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 or 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 949-1798. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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